

Chapter 7

MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS

Sections

	Articles
I. Establishment	7-1 thru 7-2
II. Organization	7-3 thru 7-4
III. Medical Service Corps Officers	7-5 thru 7-6
IV. Duties of the Medical Service Corps Officer	7-7 thru 7-8

Section I. ESTABLISHMENT

	Article
Establishing Legislation	7-1
Mission	7-2

7-1. Establishing Legislation

(1) The Medical Service Corps was established as a staff corps of the United States Navy on 4 August 1947 by the Army-Navy Medical Service Corps Act of 1947 (34 U.S.C. 30 a-j). This staff corps was created as a component of the Medical Department of the Navy to complement the functions of the Medical and Dental Corps.

(2) This act provides for the corps to consist of such specialties as the Secretary of the Navy considers necessary. The Corps currently consists of officers in health care administration, clinical health care services, clinical support sciences and technology, and the human performance and environmental sciences. All Medical Service Corps specialties are enumerated in

the Navy Officer Manpower and Personnel Classifications Manual (NAVPERS 15839D).

7-2. Mission

(1) As established by Public Law, the Medical Service Corps was created as a component of the Medical Department of the Navy to complement the functions of the Medical and Dental Corps. The Medical Service Corps, as a staff corps of commissioned officers, provides Medical Department support to the Operating Forces, Shore Establishments, and other beneficiaries through clinical, science, and management professions in support of medicine and dentistry.

Section II. ORGANIZATION

	Article
Chief of the Medical Service Corps	7-3
Medical Service Corps Division of BUMED	7-4

7-3. Chief of the Medical Service Corps

(1) The Chief of the Medical Service Corps is appointed by the Secretary of the Navy, upon the recommendation of the Surgeon General, from officers on the active list of the Navy in the Medical Service Corps holding permanent appointments in grades not below lieutenant commander. The Chief is appointed for a term of not more than 4 years, to serve at the pleasure of the Secretary. Permanent status as a commissioned officer in the Medical Service Corps is not disturbed by appointment as Chief (10 U.S.C. 5130(a)).

(2) The Chief of the Medical Service Corps is responsible to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery via the Assistant Chief for Professional Development for the administration, direction, and coordination of the Medical Service Corps.

7-4. Medical Service Corps Division of BUMED

(1) The Chief of the Medical Service Corps is also the Director of the Medical Service Corps Division, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. The Division Direc-

tor is responsible for the performance of all functions of the Division. The Division plans, advises, and makes recommendations regarding changes in administrative policy related to Medical Service Corps functions; promotes and makes recommendations regarding implementation of professional standards for clinical practice; develops, coordinates, evaluates, and advises on matters pertaining to personnel policy, military requirements, and professional qualifications of Medical Service Corps officers; makes recommendations to the Naval Military Personnel Command regarding procurement, distribution, separation, training, career development, and accounting of Medical Service Corps personnel; and implements policies of the Chief, BUMED, as they relate to clinical practice, service, education, and research.

(2) The Medical Service Corps Division consists of an office of the Division Director, Deputy Director for Health Care Administration, Deputy Director for Health Care and Science, the Career Planning Programs and Requirements Branch which includes the Procurement Programs Section, and specialty advisors.

Section III. MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS OFFICERS

	Article
Grades and Strength	7-5
Appointments	7-6

7-5. Grades and Strength

(1) The Medical Service Corps consists of officers in the grades of ensign through captain. These officers take precedence after officers of the Dental Corps serving in the same grade and having the same dates of rank (10 U.S.C. 5508).

(2) The total authorized number of Regular officers of the corps is limited by law (10 U.S.C. 5404). The authorized active duty strength of the corps, including Regular, Reserve, and temporary officers, is adjusted periodically as required.

(3) Within the authorized strength of the corps, the actual strength of each of the component sections

is contingent on, and determined by, requirements for officers in the specialties concerned.

7-6. Appointments

(1) The general and specific requirements for appointment are set forth in BUPERSMAN, BUPERS Instructions in the 1120 series, and in Navy Recruiting Command Instruction 1110.1 series. Requirements vary with the specific programs, with the sections of the corps in which appointments are sought, and with the status of the candidates.

Section IV. DUTIES OF THE MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS OFFICER

	Article
General Duties	7-7
Off-Duty Employment (Regulatory)	7-8

7-7. General Duties

(1) Medical Service Corps officers render support to the Medical Department by performing primary duties in administration, clinical, and scientific specialties related to health care, safety, and performance effectiveness of naval personnel. In addition to the primary duties prescribed for the billet to which a Medical Service Corps officer is detailed, additional duties which contribute to the proper functioning of the command, and for which the officer is qualified, may also be assigned.

(2) An officer of the Medical Service Corps may be detailed as commanding officer or officer in charge of such activities as appropriate to this corps (10 U.S.C. 5945).

7-8. Off-Duty Employment (Regulatory)

(1) Officers of the Medical Service Corps shall comply with MANMED article 1-22 with regard to off-duty remunerative professional employment.